

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 10 and 18 have been amended. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By the foregoing amendments, the claims should particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 5-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Su, U.S. Patent 5,713,800. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10, 11 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Lo, U.S. Patent 5,303,922. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Su. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Lo. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 18 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Lo in view of Cheng, U.S. Patent 5,967,903. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The golf club of the present invention is characterized by a body connected with a striking plate by positioning protrusions and a welding portion thereof. By contrast, the Su patent fails to disclose teeth 25 of a striking surface 20 used to connect to a composite body 30 by welding portion in a welding step. Similarly, the Lo patent fails to disclose projections 11, 12 of a striking plate 10 used to connect to a head portion 20 by a welding portion during the welding step. This head portion can actually be made of carbon fiber composite. In fact, the head portion 20 disclosed in the Lo patent is unsuitable for a welding process. The Examiner should not reasonably consider both the teeth 25 of the Su patent and the projections 11, 12 of the Lo patent to be consistent with positioning protrusions as claimed in the present application.

It is noted that the secondary reference to Cheng fails to teach a welding portion applied to positioning protrusions provided on one of the club head body and the striking plate. However, the teeth 25 of Su and the projections of Lo are not embedded in the club head. There is obviously no welding process which can be applied to either of the teeth 25 in the Su patent or the projections in the Lo patent.

None of the references utilized by the Examiner disclose or suggest a golf club head having deformable protrusions to engage a body with a striking plate in preparation for welding. It should

be noted that none of these references disclose nor suggest a golf club head having a welding portion applied to the positioning protrusions.

As has been discussed in the previous response, in consideration of the teeth 25 of Su and the projections of Lo only for the engaging step, there is no reasonable expectation of success for modifying these in the welding step. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art could not possibly, in the absence of hindsight, have conceived of using the teeth 25 of Su and the projections of Lo to achieve such the positioning protrusion as claimed in the present Application. The secondary reference to Cheng does not overcome these deficiencies. The claimed welding structure of the present invention is not found in the utilized prior art. It is respectfully requested that the 35 USC §102(b) and 103 rejections now be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event the Examiner does not consider the Application to be in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purposes of appeal. This Amendment should at least overcome the 35 USC §112, second paragraph rejection and therefore simplify the issues for appeal. However, it is not anticipated that an Appeal should be necessary

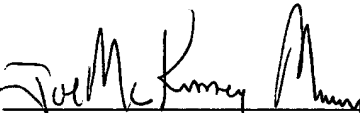
since the instant application should be in condition for allowance. Again, favorable consideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in this Application the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, DC area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s)